

# **Haymond Refuse AML Enhancement Rule Project**

## **Letcher County**

### **Project Description**

The proposed project (16.2 acres total) consists of removing a coal refuse pile, located at the community of Haymond, in Letcher County. The project area is centrally located at 37° 10' 42" latitude and 82° 41' 07" longitude on the Jenkins West quadrangle (see the attached map.) The coal refuse is a potential fire hazard and it will continue to erode downstream affecting water quality.

The existing refuse pile was created during mining prior to 1963. The pile is currently vegetated in volunteer species, including trees. Trees representing Indiana bat habitat will only be removed from the project area between October 15 and March 31. Drainage controls will be installed and cover material will be removed and stockpiled prior to refuse removal.

Construction includes excavating approximately 150,000 tons of raw coal refuse, and transporting it to an off site permitted preparation plant. The refuse area will be worked from the top of the pile progressively excavating southeast to northwest through the refuse. Once removal of the refuse material commences, each sequence cut will create a sump area to the rear of the work area that will provide sediment control and a berm will be created on the front of the sequence cuts to prevent refuse material from leaving the work area. Once refuse removal is complete, cover material, generated from within the project boundaries, will provide a final cover for planting vegetation. The final configuration of the project area will resemble the pre-existing natural drainage pattern of the area.

All project access exists. Road dust and any coal refuse pile dust will be controlled by watering. Noise will be controlled by limiting work hours and keeping engine brake use to an absolute minimum. Any concrete debris found will be pulverized and buried on site. Metal debris and trash will be taken to an approved landfill off-site. Construction disturbances will be kept to a minimum through the use of a stringently formulated sediment and erosion control program consisting of straw bales, silt fences, and two dugouts. All cover material will be generated from on-site and prompt re-vegetation using agricultural limestone, fertilizer, seed, mulch, and netting will be performed on all areas disturbed by the project. Vegetated or rock-lined ditches will provide permanent drainage control.

No off-site borrow areas will be used. All of the project area has been previously disturbed by coal mining, residential construction, or road construction. This project will

require the removal of some existing second-growth trees and shrubs; however, erosion and sedimentation after the project will be reduced, compared to existing conditions. No disturbance of any stream reach is planned. No construction is proposed within a regulated floodplain. All necessary permits and/or variances will be procured prior to construction.

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